SECTION V

WOODEN TOOLS

Firetongs:(Fig.   No. 1)

Sample: 4.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are composed of two smoothed halves of sticks, plano-convex in cross-section that come together at one end making a hinge. The two parts of the unhinged end are rounded, smooth, and burned. Three seem to have been made by ~~a~~ folding in half a long smoothed split stick. The other is an almost completely split cylindrical stick. One of the folded ones has some wrapping of string at the hinge joint.

Dimensions: Maximum length of complete specimen - 148 mm.
Maximum width of all specimens - 10 to 14 mm.
Maximum thickness of halves - 5 to 7 mm.

Use: The burned ends certainly indicate these were consciously put in the fire while the hinged joint indicates they were opened and closed. Thus I conclude that these were firetongs for putting objects (food) in the fire for roasting and then rescuing them when they were cooked.

Temporal Range: In Canyon Infiernillo from 7000 B.C. to 1750 A.D. (The trait was also re-introduced by workmen in Canyon Infiernillo in 1955 as a tool for toasting tortillas and roasting dry meat.)

Geographical Range: These appear in the southwest United States.

Relationships:

References: Martin, et al, 1952, p. 411.

Hammered conical spike: (Fig.   No. 1, 3, 4)

Sample: 26.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are a series of cylindrical sticks that has had their bark removed. One end has been made by cutting a groove around the stick and then breaking it in two. Later this end has been pounded so the broken and cut portions are barred or fringed. The other end has been whittled to a point. In a few cases the point has been smoothed (7 examples) while in others it was barred (8). Many of these points show evidence of having been battered.

Dimensions: Maximum length ranges from 43 to 128 mm.

Maximum diameter ranges from 15 to 40 mm.

Use: These sticks have obviously been hammered into something, probably the ground. Exactly what they were then used for is difficult to determine exactly. It has been suggested they were used to peg down skins for scraping, curing, and drying, or that they were tied for looms in weaving, or pegs for traps. In reality they probably were used for all these functions as well as many more.

Temporal and Geographical Range: Canyon Infiernillo, 7000 B.C. to 1750 A.D. These also appear in the southwest from 1000 B.C. to the present.

Relationships:

References:

Sticks with both ends tapered:

Sample: 2.

Form and manufacturing technique: There are two long narrow sticks which have had both their ends whittled to points and then rounded off due to smoothing or use. One has its bark stripped off.

Dimensions: Maximum length ranges from 220 to 340 mm.

Maximum diameter ranges from 12 to 16 mm.

Use: Unknown.

Temporal and Geographical Range: 7000 B.C. to 1750 A.D.

Relationships:

References:

Digging stick:

Sample: 4.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are long sticks that have one of their ends whittled to a long tapering point and their other end rounded off by cutting or burning and polishing. Three have their bark removed and two have gum on their tips.

Size: Maximum length ranges from 242 to 350 mm.

Maximum diameter ranges from 15 to 22 mm.

Use: Since their ends are not hammered, it is believed their points were thrust into something (the ground) by holding the shaft on end. An implement used in this manner could have been making holes for planting corn or seeds or excavating pits or holes.

Temporal and Geographical Range: 7000 B.C. to 1750 A.D.

Relationships:

References:

Small pointed sticks: (Fig. No. 6)

Sample: 10.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are small sticks with their bark scraped off and one end whittled to a point while the other was sawed in two.

Dimensions: Maximum length ranges from 22 to 112 mm.

Maximum diameter ranges from 4 to 7 mm.

Use: One of these has string wrapped around its end so it may have been a heddle for weaving or the central shaft of a spindle whorl. However, since some of the pointed sticks are before textile weaving or spinning of string, they must have had other functions. Some of these may have been for basket weaving and doubtless there were many other uses.

Temporal and Geographical Range: In southwest Tamaulipas from 4000 B.C. to 1400 A.D. In the southwest and Great Basin they occur almost equally as long.

Relationships:

References:

Hammered split wedges:

Sample: 8.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are small sticks that have the bark scraped off their length, one end whittled to a point, and the other cut and sawed and then broken off. Later the whole object was split, sometimes (2 examples) the point further whittled and the cut end pounded.

Dimensions: Maximum length ranges from 30 to 156 mm.

Maximum width ranges from 8 to 31 mm.

Maximum thickness ranges from 3 to 12 mm.

Use: Same as hammered conical spikes.

Temporal and Geographical Range: Canyon Infiernillo, 4000 B.C. to 1750 A.D.

Relationships:

References:

Spring pole traps: (Fig. No.)

Sample: 7.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are made from long thin sticks with a sawed end, and all have one end broken off. One from a Flacco level and one from a San Lorenzo level are slightly curved but the others are straight. Five of the sticks (including the curved ones) have a small section adjacent to the cut end that has been sliced on one side only and the junction of end and sliced portion is worn. Furthermore, three of these (one from each of the horizons)

have a tie of yucca just above the sliced area. The other two (from San Lorenzo) have no slicing and are straight but have a tie adjacent to the sawed end. The tie in all but one the latter is a slip knot, while that one has a square knot. All the adhering yucca strands show that one end was very long.

Dimensions: Maximum length ranges from at least 62 to 225 mm.

Maximum diameter ranges from 11 to 16 mm.

Maximum length of slice ranges from 24 to 35 mm.

Use: The fragments I consider to have been spring pole traps are those with the sliced end. The sliced portion of the sprung stick caught on some~~thing~~ firm object. Attached to the sprung stick was a yucca cord with a slip-loop resting on the ground. When an animal either disturbed the loop or the hanging yucca string, the caught sliced portion was released and the stick sprung up catching the animal in the tightening slip loop.

The other two specimens without the sliced ends were probably also spring traps but had a different method of release, probably employing some sort of trigger or were drags or large triggers of traps.

Temporal and Geographical Range: In the Canyon Infiernillo these traps begin ? about 1400 B.C. and last until 1450.?

Relationships:

References:

Mended gourd:

Sample: 4.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are four fragments of gourds (Lageneria six.) that have from one to four holes drilled with hand drill from one side along a broken or cut side.

Dimensions: Maximum length of fragments ranges from 11 to 222 mm.

Maximum width of fragments ranges from 11 to 30 mm.

Maximum diameter of holes ranges from 1 to 3 mm.

Use: Mending of gourd containers.

Temporal and Geographical Range: 1800 B.C. to 1400 A.D. in Canyon Infiernillo.

Relationships:

References:

Rabbit stick:

Sample: 1.

Form and manufacturing technique: This is made from a long bent stick with one arm being at about an 80° angle from the other. Once the stick had been cut to the desired length, it was split, the ends and surface smoothed, and a groove carved along its midsection.

Dimensions: Total length: 323 mm. (203+120 mm.)

Total width: 11 mm.

Total thickness: 5 mm.

Use: This was probably used to kill small game such as rabbits by throwing or scaling it so that it struck the rear legs.

Temporal and Geographical Range: In Canyon Infiernillo from 1400 to 1800 B.C. It appears as early in the Southwest and Great Basin, but lasts longer.

Relationships:

References:

Cane cigarette butts:

Sample: 37

Form and manufacturing technique: These are made by sawing a length of cane into sections. Most (28) are sawed just below one joint and in the middle of the next section while the others were sawed from sections between two joints. Next some sort

of leaves (probably tobacco,though no pieces of leaf were large enough to be sure) were stuffed into one end and that end burned. In rare (3) cases both ends were burned and in two cases fibers were stuffed in the un-burned ends.

Dimensions: Length of incomplete burned specimens - 12 to 32 mm.

Maximum diameter ranges from 8 to 19 mm.

Use: These are considered to be cane cigarettes and the two from San Lorenzo and Palmillas with fibers in their sucking or puffing ends were filter-tip cane cigarettes.

Temporal and Geographical Range: Canyon Infiernillo, 300 to 1750 A.D. They seem to be of about the same age in Hohokan, Anasazi, Mogollon, Trans-Pecos, Chihuahua ? areas and slightly more recent in Gypsom Cave.

Relationships:

References:

<u>Cane tube cut one end</u>:

Sample: 5.

Form and manufacturing technique~~s~~ and use: These are five small pieces of cane that are cut or sawed just below one joint and broken in the middle of the next. I suspect these are incomplete artifacts (such as arrows, cigarettes, flutes, etc.)

Dimensions: Maximum length ranges from 16 to 35 mm.

Maximum diameter ranges from 7 to 14 mm.

Temporal and Geographical Range: 300 A.D. to 1750 A.D.

Relationships:

References:

Cane tubes:

Sample: 10.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are a series of short pieces of hollow cane that has been sawed between the two joints.

Dimensions: Maximum length ranges from 16 mm. to 66 mm.

Maximum diameter ranges from 9 mm. to 20 mm.

Use: Unknown.

Temporal and Geographical Range: Canyon Infiernillo, 200 to 1450 A.D.

Relationships:

References:

Corn on a stick:

Sample: 8.

Cane knives:

Sample: 4.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are long slivers of cane, often pointed at both ends. One edge and sometimes part of one end or the other edge has been smoothed either due to use or sharpening. Also, one has been burned, perhaps to harden it, and then smoothed.

Dimensions: Maximum length ranges from 184 to 268 mm.

Maximum width ranges from 8 to 13 mm.

Use: Cane knives.

Temporal and Geographical Range: Canyon Infiernillo, 200 to 1750 A.D.

Relationships:

References:

Conical sticks with cut base:

Sample: 2.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are small conical sticks with one end whittled to a

? point and the other end ?ringed by cutting and then broken.

Dimensions: Maximum length ranges from 24 to 35 mm.

Maximum diameter ranges from 14 to 20 mm.

Use: Unknown.

Temporal and Geographical Range: Canyon Infiernillo, 900 to 1450 A.D.

Relationships:

References:

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Mound sticks:

Sample: 2.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are short sticks, broken at both ends, that have string wrapped around them.

Dimensions: Maximum length ranges from 78 to 162 mm.

Maximum diameter ranges from 10 to 12 mm.

Maximum length of wrapped area ranges from 55 to 66 mm.

Use: Heddles.

Temporal and Geographical Range: 900 to 1750 A.D.

Relationships:

References:

Small sticks tied together:

Sample: 1.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are four narrow sticks with string wrapped around them.

Dimensions: Maximum length:~~ran~~ 62 mm.

Maximum diameter: 16 mm.

Diameter of stick: 4 to 7 mm.

Use: ?
Temporal and Geographical Range:
Relationships:

References:

Bar trap trigger:

Sample: 3.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are made from small sticks that have been cut into short lengths by whitting a ring around them and then snapping them. Around their centers are pieces (on all but one) of yucca tied with a slip knot. The bark is usually rubbed off in the are of the yucca tie.

Dimensions: Maximum length ranges from 68 to 97 mm.

Maximum diameter ranges from 6 to 8 mm.

Use: These,I believe,were triggers for some sort of spring pole trap or snare trap.

Temporal and Geographical Range: Canyon Infiernillo, 900 to 1750 A.D.

Relationships:

References:

Reed with palm-leaf bindings:

Scraper handles:

Sample: 2.

Form and manufacturing technique: One of these is made from a length of reed sawed just above and below two sequential joints, while the other that is split was made from a stick that had been sawed at one end and whittled to a round base at the other end. A slot was then sawed in both, gum put in the slot, and a scraper (tear-drop type) set in it.

Dimensions: Maximum length ranges from 102 to 111 mm.

Maximum diameter ranges from 12 to 16 mm.

Area of gum: 28 to 36 mm.

Scraper impression: 11 to 16 mm.

Use: Since there is a broken portion of a broken scraper in the cane specimen and an impression of a scraper in the gum in the ~~center~~ other, these are considered to be scraper handles.

Temporal and Geographical Range: Canyon Infiernillo, 1450 to 1750 A.D.

Relationships:

References:

Pointed sticks:

Sample: 3.

Form, dimensions, and manufacturing technique: These are two little barkless stick fragments about 12 mm. in diameter and 20 mm. long and flattened stick 20 mm. wide, 4 mm. thick, and 25 mm. long, that have a reddish-purple point on them.

Use: ?

Temporal and Geographical Range:

Relationships:

References:

Stick pointed both ends (spindle?):

Sample: 1.

Form and manufacturing technique: This is a thin, narrow stick that has been ground to long

tapering points at either end.

Dimensions: Maximum length: 97 mm. (probably originally 125 mm.)

Maximum diameter: 3 mm.

Use: Spindle.

Temporal and Geographical Range: Canyon Infiernillo, 1450 to 1750 A.D.

Relationships:

References:

Cane flute:

Sample: 1.

Form and manufacturing technique: This is made from a length of cane sawed on one end and broken on the other. A joint of the cane was then drilled through and four holes drilled in one side of the cane.

Dimensions: Length: 80 mm.

Maximum diameter: 9 mm.

Diameter of three large holes: 4 mm.

Diameter of one small hole: 1 mm.

Holes 17 mm. apart.

Use: Flute.

Temporal and Geographical Range: Canyon Infiernillo, 1450 to 1750 A.D.

Relationships:

References:

Bow for drill:

Sample: 1.

Form and manufacturing technique: A long (320 mm.), thin (4 to 6 mm.) was first off. Then a piece of yucca string (1.5 mm. in diameter) composed of two yarns of

Z-twisted fibers was fastened to one end. It was fastened by laying a small length of string on the stick and then wrapping the cord around the string toward the end with turn forming a loop around the string. Then the string was pulled tight and the stick bent and the other end of the string tied in three half-hitches.

Use: Originally this was thought to be a toy bow but examination of wear on the string changed that opinion. About 48 mm. of the center part of string has been frayed due to use. This could not have been caused by arrow-shooting. Further, one is able to make a loop of this frayed section which fits around objects (such as a drill bit) from 7 to 10 mm. in diameter, with still a little frayed part left over. Examination of wear on string of Eskimo bow drills reveals a similar phenomena. Thus I consider this the bow of a drill.

Temporal and Geographical Range:

Relationships:

References:

<u>Cactus needle pins</u>:

Sample: 3.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are from cactus leaves cut off near their tips,and their tips ~~and their tips~~ burned to harden them.

Dimensions: About 132 mm. long.

Burned tip: 22 mm.

Use: Needles or awls.

Temporal and Geographical Range: Canyon Infiernillo, 900 to 1750 A.D.

Relationships:

References:

Spiked trap trigger:

Sample: 2.

Form and manufacturing technique: These are two small twigs that have been cut off a branch and then one of their ends bevelled and worn. The larger stick and four small branches (two set, each on opposite sides of the branch at 90° to each other), while the smaller has only two branches on opposite sides adhering.

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Dimensions: Length: 72 to 95 mm.

Diameter: 5 to 7 mm.

Side sticks: 8 to 13 mm.

→ Use: →

Temporal and Geographical Range:

Relationships:

References:

[Section V – Wonder Tool]

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